

Appln. No. 09/933,264

Attorney, Jocket No. 68775-044

**AMENDMENT TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please cancel the current Abstract of the Disclosure and substitute therefore the new Abstract of the Disclosure on the following page.

Appln. No. 09/933,264

Attorney Docket No. 68775-044

**ABSTRACT**

A plurality of nodes is divided into groups, including a particular group of two or more nodes, and messages are specified to be sent from a source to the particular group of nodes. The specification designates the particular group and does not specify any particular node of the particular group. If each node in the particular group has a return path to the source, then a packet is transmitted from the source to each given node containing at least an address corresponding to that node, but not the other nodes, of the particular group. The source then waits to receive a response packet acknowledging proper receipt of the packet from the given node.